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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/573,077	03/23/2006	Soichi Kato	R-0602Y	7005
7590 03/17/2008				
Kazunao Kubotera Takeuchi & Kubotera Suite 202 200 Daingerfield Road Alexandria, VA 22314			EXAMINER WALBERG, TERESA J	
			ART UNIT 3744	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 03/17/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/573,077

Applicant(s)

KATO, SOICHI

Examiner

Teresa J. Walberg

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 December 2007 and 03 January 2008.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 23-46 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 March 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/3/08
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, claims 1-22, in the reply filed on 13 December 2008 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 23-46 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 13 December 2008.
3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
4. Claims 1 and 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Negishi (2002/0101718).

Negishi discloses a heat exchanger tube (Figs. 1 and 2) including a tube body portion including an outer shell of flow passages (12) for flowing a medium, corrugated inner fins (17) for dividing the flow passages, the tips of the inner fins being flat tubes brazed to the inner surface of the tube body portion (Fig. 2), a brazing material being not clad to a first material constituting the tube body portion, but clad to a second material constituting the inner fins (para. 0021, lines 3-6), the tops of the inner fins being flat (Fig. 2), the ends of the second material

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being brazed with the first material by the brazing material which is clad to the second material (Fig. 2 and para. 0021, lines 3-6), both ends of the first material being engaged and brazed with an end of the second material sandwiched at one end of the tube in its breadth direction so as not to separate from each other (Fig. 2), the portion between the tips of the inner fin being not perpendicular with respect to the central axis of the tube in its breadth direction (Fig. 2).

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Negishi (2002/0101718) in view of Kawabe (5,260,142).

Negishi discloses a heat exchanger tube as claimed with the exception of an Al-Zn alloy layer formed on the surface of the tube. Kawabe discloses providing an Al-Zn alloy layer formed on the surface of a heat exchanger tube to prevent corrosion of the tube. It would have been obvious in view of Kawabe to provide an Al-Zn alloy layer formed on the surface of the tube of Negishi, the motivation being to prevent corrosion of the tube.

7. Claims 2-13 and 19-22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Negishi (2002/0101718).

Negishi discloses a heat exchanger tube as claimed with the exception of specifying the thicknesses of the layers and the sizes of the parts. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to give the parts of Negishi any desired sizes and thicknesses, based on the intended use of the device.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Butt is cited to show heat exchanger structure having fins inside tubes.

Doko et al is cited as teaching that it is known to apply braze material to fins rather than tubes.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Teresa J. Walberg whose telephone number is 571-272-4790. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl Tyler can be reached on 571-272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Teresa J. Walberg/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3744

/TW/